



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- Lyrics to five songs used during game (See What You Do)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter the room
- “I’m A Little Teapot” song (same as week one)
- *Optional:* The actual songs used during the game to be played when a team correctly names the song.

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Jam Session Theme Slide
- Where’s the Melody Title Slide

What You Do:

- **Where’s The Melody Music:** We have created a sample playlist on Spotify. Search “orangeleaders” and the playlist “November Preteen W3 Game.” Due to Spotify licensing restrictions, you are unable to play this during Large Group, but this can serve as examples of the songs you can use during the game.

- Select five appropriate songs kids would recognize if they only heard the lyrics. Suggested songs could include “Hair Up,” “Can’t Stop The Feeling,” “I Like To Move It,” “How Far I’ll Go,” “I Promise You,” and “Shake It Off.” After the kids give the correct answer, you can play a clip of the song that goes with the lyrics you read.
- To play the game using the text-to-speech function, copy the lyrics to each song in a Word document. Highlight just the lyrics you want read. We suggest highlighting a small sample (a couple of lines) of the chorus. To make your computer read the lyrics, search in Google “Text-to-speech function” for your type of computer (MAC/PC). Follow the instructions. If this option is unavailable, have your host read the lyrics from a sheet of paper from the stage with no emotion or inflection.

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Bible
- Two volunteers

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids exit the room

Large Group Visuals:

- Hidden Picture Slides one through three
- Key Question Slide

What You Do:

- Before the service starts, select two kids who will do well at making sound effects. Consider prepping them by giving them examples of sounds they will be asked to make. In addition, let them know in advance when the communicator pauses and looks at them . . . that is when they make the sound effects.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- This Is Living
- Alive Again

Stand By You

Bible Story: Stand By You (Jesus Heals the Paralytic/Four Friends) • *Luke 5:17-26*

Bottom Line: Work together to help someone in need.

Key Question: Who do you know who needs help?

Memory Verse: “Two people are better than one. They can help each other in everything they do.” *Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIRV)*

Life App: Cooperation—Working together to do more than you can do alone

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Story: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

CG: *Jam Session Theme Slide*

Host enters.

Welcome

*Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host discusses recent/upcoming events: Thanksgiving in the U.S., National Saxophone Day, International Tongue Twister Day, World Kindness Day, College Football, NFL, movie opening (*The Nutcracker and the Four Realms*, *Dr. Seuss’ The Grinch*), a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they’re there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what’s happening.*

Opener

HOST: “Jams! Tunes! Harmonics! MUSIC! That’s what I love. Everywhere I go, I hear it—I feel it—I crave it. Music makes us feel something inside, and I’m not talking about the feeling you get from the Frito pie you ate last night. It makes us feel happy, excited, and even confident. This past week I’ve been doing a lot of thinking about music composition. More specifically, I’ve been trying to dissect the Greatest Song of All Time to figure out what makes it so special. Here give it a quick listen . . .”

SFX: *“I’m a Little Teapot”*

“Now, I know what you’re thinking. First, you’re thinking ‘WOW, are you really playing that song again?!’ Next, you might be thinking, ‘What an amazing song! I am simply blown away.’ And, yes, that is the appropriate reaction to have. But finally, you’re thinking, ‘What is it about this majestic and powerful song that MAKES it so amazing?’ And I think I can answer that question—it’s the melody. In fact, one could argue that the melody is what makes ALL songs what they are. I mean, without the instrumentation, that song would just be a long-winded description of a beverage receptacle! Without the actual MUSIC to go along with the vocals, it can be hard to pick a song out of a crowd. Which leads me, naturally, to the game I want to play with you today!”

CG: Where's the Melody Title Slide

"This game is called 'Where's the Melody,' and you'll be playing together with your small groups! Everybody circle up really quickly with your Small Group Leaders."

Host allows a few moments for kids to join their Small Group Leaders.

"Here's how this will work. I've taken the lyrics of several popular songs and run them through my computer to strip them of all music and melody. For this game, you will hear only the LYRICS of the song . . . with no inflection, no pizzazz, and no musical beat. With ONLY the words, you and your small group will have to guess the TITLE of the song. If you think you have the answer, your WHOLE small group must stand up! The first group standing will get the chance to give their answer. If they get it right, they get a point! If they get it wrong, the next small group gets a chance to answer. At the end of five rounds, whoever has the MOST points will be declared the winner! Everyone ready? Then LET'S! GET! TO! IT!"

Host will facilitate game. As lyrics are played, Host will watch for the first and second small groups to stand. Host will cue the person in the sound booth when it's time to play the lyrics. Feel free to play them twice if the Small Groups are having a hard time guessing.

SFX One through Five: Lyrics through your computer's text-to-speak function

"Wow! Excellent job! Or should I say, *[robot voice]* EXCELLENT JOB. Without the melody or music or beat, those songs just aren't the same. In fact, you might call them lame. But you know who isn't lame? Our winners! How's about a big round of applause for our winning Small Group? *(Pause for response)* Good stuff! Now let's keep up on your feet because it's time for worship . . . with MUSIC!"

Host exits as Worship Leader enters.

Announcements

Use this as an example of what to say. Make it your own and help the kids feel welcomed. Then take a moment to share any/all announcements.

HOST: "I'm so excited to be here with all of you today and get a little crazy! If it's your first time here, I want to welcome you and I would love to have a chance to meet you, get a high five and show you around. Here at Mission, we believe that this is a place for you and you belong here no matter who you are or what you believe. Mission is for YOU!

I have just a few announcements for you all today...

Share any/all announcements.

Now let's all stand up, get close, give someone a high five and let's sing and worship together!

Host exits and Worship Leader enters.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: "Thank you, *[Name of Host]*. Let's get up and get loud as we sing and dance for who God is and what he's done for us!

This Is Living

WORSHIP LEADER: "That was amazing! (*Take a moment to say something about the next song*). So let's give everything we have and worship God together!

Alive Again

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “I’ve got a little test that I’d like all of you to help me with today. I’m going to put a series of pictures up on the screen, and I’m going to ask some of you to tell me what you see. Don’t overthink it. I’m just wondering if we see the same image. Let’s start with an easy one . . .”

CG: Hidden Picture One (duck/rabbit)

“What do you see? *(Pause for response from several in the audience)* Tell me, do you see a DUCK? Or do you see a BUNNY? Raise your hand for bunny! *(Pause for response)* And raise your hand if you see a duck? *(Pause for response)* Hmm. Interesting! Let’s try another one.”

CG: Hidden Picture Two (faces/vase)

“What do you see? *(Pause for response from several in the audience)* How many of you see a beautiful, ornate vase? *(Pause for response)* Alright, and how many of you see two people facing each other? *(Pause for response)* Intriguing! Okay, I’ve got just one more for you.”

CG: Hidden Picture Three (young woman/old woman)

“What do you see? *(Pause for response from several in the audience)* How many of you see a young lady looking away? *(Pause for response)* I see . . . and how many of you see an old woman? *(Pause for response)* Fascinating answers!”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “Regardless of what you saw, in the end, no one was WRONG . . . everyone just had a different perspective! For some, you focused on one image while others saw something totally different.”

“Isn’t this just like life? There are times you walk into your bedroom and think, ‘This is perfection.’ You know exactly where everything is and everything is your treasured possession. On the other hand, your mom sees the exact same thing and calls it a mess. In a basketball game, you take a fading jump shot ten feet behind the three-point line at the start of the game and MAKE IT. You think you are the greatest basketball player of all time, and the made shot just proves it. Moments later the coach benches you for taking such a terrible shot even though it went in. Although everyone sees the same thing, people all have a different perspectives.”

“Often times, we can only see OUR needs. We know what WE want. But sometimes, it’s a little harder to see what OTHERS might need in a given moment. The lunch lady’s serving up the last slice of pumpkin pie, your favorite! You want it SO BAD that you don’t even notice the dude behind you in line who’s got his eye on it, too. Or maybe you’ve been saving up because you really want the newest game for the Nintendo Switch. You’re so excited you’ve told all of your friends about your plans. However, you’re so fixated that you don’t notice you’re bumming out your friend because he or she can’t afford brand new video games.”

“We are all guilty of not always seeing the needs of others around us. But sometimes we do and we take action, like the guys we can read about in the book of Luke, the third book of the New Testament in our Bibles. As we get started, I need a couple of volunteers from the audience.”

TRUTH

Communicator invites two prepped volunteers to the stage.

COMMUNICATOR: “Now, this story is pretty cinematic, so I’m going to need some backup. As usual, I’ll tell the actual story, but I need the two of you to provide sound effects whenever I point at you! Here’s an easy one as a warmup: if I said ‘he slooowly opened the door’ and pointed at you, you would . . .”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a creaky old door sound effect.

“Brilliant! Let’s try one more: ‘The man yelled out in anger!’”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts an angry yelling sound effect.

“Perfect! You two are on your way to becoming top-tier sound effect artists! Now, let’s get this going for real, shall we? One day, folks from all over WALKED to a house where Jesus was talking.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a walking sound effect.

“Jesus was speaking to a group of people. There were common folk, Pharisees, and teachers of the law all crammed into one house—it was wall-to-wall PACKED. People had gathered from all over because they had heard Jesus could heal the sick. And some of the people who had been healed had been really, *really* SICK.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a throw up sound effect.

“There were four guys in town who had heard about Jesus and His power to heal. These four friends had another friend who was paralyzed and couldn’t walk. Since their friend couldn’t get to Jesus on his own, they decided that *they* would get him to Jesus. They carried their friend on a mat to the house where Jesus was preaching to see if Jesus could heal him. But when they got there, they found the crowd was too dense to even get CLOSE to Jesus! No doubt the friends would have been completely bummed.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a very disappointed sound effect.

“But the men weren’t discouraged! They figured out a backup plan! First things first, they had to get up on the roof. They slowly climbed their way up the house.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a climbing sound effect.

“Then they had to hoist their friend on the mat up to the rooftop as well. Even with all of them working together, I’m sure it wasn’t exactly easy to lift him up there.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a straining sound effect.

“Ultimately, they got their friend up the side of the house. I have no doubt they had a brief moment of celebration . . .”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a celebratory sound effect.

“. . . and then they put their plan into motion. Since the crowd was too thick for them to get to Jesus, they were going to lower their friend THROUGH the roof, RIGHT in front of Jesus. Of course, this likely ended up being very startling to everyone inside . . .”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts an alarmed sound effect.

“. . . but regardless, they tore a hole in the roof large enough for their friend and his mat. Together, the friends slowly and carefully lowered their friend through the hole . . . straining their muscles with exertion . . .”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a straining sound effect.

“. . . they lowered their friend down through the ceiling, DIRECTLY in front of Jesus. The crowd was stunned!”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts a surprised sound effect.

“Jesus looked at the paralyzed man on the mat. He looked up to the ceiling and saw the man’s friends on the rooftop. Check this out. *(Open Bible and read Luke 5:20 NIV.)* ‘When Jesus saw that they had faith, he spoke to the man. He said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”’ The Pharisees and the law experts who were in the audience were NOT HAPPY.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts an angry, grumbling sound effect.

“The religious leaders believed Jesus was doing what only God could do—forgive sins. Yet this is exactly what Jesus did! This was unheard of and not allowed! But Jesus spoke next to the religious leaders. He said, *(Open Bible and read Luke 5:23-24a NIV.)* “‘Is it easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’? Or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.’” Jesus continued speaking to the paralyzed man *(Open Bible and read Luke*

5:24b NlrV.) “I tell you . . . get up. Take your mat and go home.” And . . . he did. The paralyzed man stood, collected his things, and went home praising God. Everyone was AMAZED.”

Communicator points at volunteers, prompts an amazed sound effect.

“Because of the faith and the ACTION of his friends, a paralyzed man walked. The people who witnessed these events were filled with awe and wonder. How about a huge round of applause for our volunteers?”

Communicator dismisses volunteers.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “Here we had a group of friends wanting to help someone else. Even though they faced an obstacle, they worked to overcome the massive crowd to get their friend the help he needed. Even Jesus noticed the faith of the sick man’s friends. Nobody forced them to help. And clearly, they weren’t doing this for themselves. They SAW the need and worked TOGETHER to take ACTION.”

“A lot of the time, someone else’s need is closer than we think it is. It doesn’t have to be a stranger in a news special. It doesn’t have to be someone in another country! In reality, we can meet people’s needs in our very own neighborhoods and schools or even our own family! Together with your small group you can donate clothing to the local shelter. Together with your friends you can hang out with the new kid at your school! Together with your family you can serve a warm meal to new neighbors who don’t have family nearby.”

“But in order to do this, we must first see the need, keeping our eyes open for opportunities to help others and work with friends to make a difference.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “As we head off to Small Group, think about the people and places you know, and ask yourself this question:”

CG: Key Question Slide

“**Who do you know who needs help?** Think about how together with friends, family, or even your small group you can make a difference in that person’s life. Before we head out, let’s pray and ask God to help us see the needs of people around us and figure out how we can help them! Let’s pray.”

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard then dismisses them to small group.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.